

Children and Youth Ministry News from the MN Conference UCC



Survey Results are in...

There have been surveys this summer addressing the ministry of Pilgrim Point Camp and faith formation in both the local congregation and conference setting. Many thanks to all who took time to assist in our gathering of data as we try to be responsive to the ministry needs throughout the MN Conference!

One question that was asked referred to "vocation" as a program area. Of the 62 churches that responded to the survey, there were only two churches doing any type of vocational discernment program - and those programs were for adults.

This piece of information raises a few questions for me - first, is vocation even an important topic or program? If yes, then why are we not addressing it programmatically? This weekend at Pilgrim Point Camp there will be youth and ministry leaders from at least 15 congregations around the conference thinking through how we can start to address vocation in our churches, create intentional cultures where vocation is discerned and why this all matters.

Please lift these churches up in your prayers as they send leaders to participate in the retreat this weekend;

- All Nations (Mpls), Bethlehem (Maple Lake), Mizpah (Hopkins), 1st Congregational (Moorhead, Cannon Falls, Northfield, Minnesota), Parkway (Mpls), St. Anthony Park, Morningside (Edina), Plymouth (Mpls), Associated (Owatonna), Mac-Plymouth (St. Paul), Linden Hills (Mpls), and New Brighton.

Blessing and Peace,
Wade Zick, Ashley Minister of Faith Formation for Children and Youth

New On-line Registration!

Beginning immediately you may register and pay for all events on-line. Just follow the link provided through the [click here](#) notice. You will go to a registration form for that specific event. Registration couldn't be easier!

Middle School Service Days - Serving Minnesota!

Saturday, November 20, Moorhead
Saturday, January 15, Minneapolis
Saturday, February 26, Rochester
Saturday, March 26, Mankato

Join the Middle School Service Days (6th-8th graders) as we help others while making new friends from around the Minnesota Conference UCC! This is a great community and UCC identity builder for confirmation classes, youth groups and Sunday school. Days run from 9:30 - 3 pm; lunch is provided, and overnight lodging is possible the night before.

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Youth: Save the Dates

CYE, October 22-24, 2010,
Pilgrim Point

March 4-6, 2011,
Justice Led Youth Training
Event, Camp Koinonia

The service projects vary by site but each day will include;

- Orientation to service and our projects
- Lunch
- Debriefing of our work and worship

Cost is only \$5. per person.

To register [click here.](#)

Many thanks for the leaders at each site for helping arrange the work and meals.

Questions? Call Leah Springer or Wade Zick at 612-871-0359 or email:

leahs@uccmn.org or wadez@uccmn.org

Children's Ministry Lunches and Resourcing

All gatherings 11:30-1:30

- **September 23** @ Parkway UCC; Christmas Party, Advent Resources, & Faith Practices
- **November 4** @ Wayzata Community Church; Self-care & Spirituality
- **January 6** @ MN Church Center, Lent resources
- **March 10** @ United Theological Seminary, Barbara Anne Keeley, Trends in Faith Formation

Join others in the conference for these informational days throughout the year. We will gather for networking, lunch and a look at resources and/or a speaker presentation during each meeting.

[Click here](#) to register.

Youth Leader Lunches and Connecting

These lunches include time for networking and learning and meet from 11:30-1:30 each day. This year's dates and topics include:

- **November 11**, Kelly Burd from the National UCC will speak to women's issues (Plymouth Church, Mpls)
- **February 10**, Youth Ministry Resources and Trends (MN Church Center)
- **April 14**, Teens and Drugs and Alcohol (Plymouth Church, Mpls)

[Click here](#) to register.

Conference Youth Event, Fall 2010

"Keeping it Simple"

A weekend retreat for high school youth focused around living simply and turning down the technology demands of life...

REGISTER YOUR YOUTH NOW ON-LINE & SAVE PAPER

Oct 22-24, Pilgrim Point Camp, Alexandria, MN

Early registration deadline - September 19 (\$75 youth / \$50 adults)
After September 19 - Registration is \$10 more (\$85 youth / \$60 adults)

[Click here](#) to register online.

[Click here](#) to download paper registration forms.

Many thanks to Co-directors Alyssa Miller (Bethlehem, Maple Lake) and Mary Gilbertson (1st Congregational, Moorhead)

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